

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Public Reprimand )  
 )  
of the Educator Certificate of )  
 )  
Ellen J. Bernados )  
 )  
Certificate 165617 )

**CONSENT ORDER OF  
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 8, 2005. On December 1, 2004, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of South Carolina educator certificate 165617 to Ms. Ellen J. Bernados by certified mail, return receipt requested delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Bernados received the notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt bearing her name. Ms. Bernados agreed to resolve the case without a hearing upon the following terms: (1) a public reprimand will be issued by the State Board, (2) notice of the public reprimand will be sent to all school districts in South Carolina, and (3) this order will be maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel of the Department. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand, as agreed to by the parties.

Ellen J.  
Bernados  
165617

Initial Here

Date

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Bernados holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over eleven years of teaching experience. She was under contract as a curriculum effectiveness specialist at Dent Middle School with Richland County School District Two (District) for the 2004-2005 school year. Ms. Bernados resigned on August 4, 2004, following the District's discussions with her regarding her failure

to include her most recent employer when listing her job experience on her employment application with the District,

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, dishonesty and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the evidence presented supports its decision to accept the public reprimand of Ms. Bernados certificate 165617.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

March 8, 2005

I, Ellen J. Bernados, SC Teaching Certificate 165617, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, March 8, 2005.

3/4/05  
Date

/S/ Ellen J. Bernados  
Ellen J. Bernados